

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

THE PRESIDENT'S DAILY BRIEF

10 OCTOBER 1966

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1. NATO

The chorus of complaints over the forthcoming trilateral talks on the offset issue has been intensifying in recent days among the other NATO Allies. They seem genuinely fearful that they will be left out of major policy decisions. Some raise the old fear of an increased German role in the Alliance and they all point to the "threat" of an emerging US-British-German "directorate" dominating NATO affairs.

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2. India

The food situation will improve only slightly next year if present signs are borne out. Prospects are fair in most parts of India for this fall's harvest. But this is not the case in the populous northeast where unusually capricious rains have been ruinous. Nearfamine conditions are approaching in some parts of the area.

The government now estimates it will need to import some 8.4 million tons of grain next year, compared with this year's 10 to 11 million tons. Even this estimate may turn out to be too optimistic.

Mobutu has now turned on Ambassador Godley as one of his principal whipping boys in the Western diplomatic community. Though he seems willing to patch things up with the US, he is telling some of 50X1 his aides that he may PNG the ambassador.

Mobutu

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establish diplomatic relations with Moscow. He seems to think this will "balance off" Western influence in the Congo and prove that he is a "true African nationalist."

Mobutu

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was personally involved in kicking the Soviets out in 1960 and 1964 and now says he will be on guard against any repetition of the blatant subversion that led to their expulsion.

However, he is no match for the subtler political pressures which a Soviet ambassador could employ on him. Also, if Moscow gets a third chance in the Congo, it will again have an opportunity to worm its way into such organizations as youth groups and political factions.

4. Nigeria

There were no more mob killings reported over the weekend, but economic problems are mounting seriously in the northern region. Many plants and services are being shut down following the departure of technically skilled personnel fleeing to their home regions.

For all practical purposes, the eastern region is already detached from the rest of the country. Many residents, confident that oil revenues will make independence viable, are pressing for formal separation.

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